GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1399
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
FDI IN BROADCASTING SECOR
Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the limit of Foreign Direct Investment in broadcasting sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any recommendation/ suggestion has been received by the Government in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (f): Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in its various recommendations from time to time has raised the issue of divergent FDI limits for different sectors which currently stand as follows:-

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FM Radio  : 20%
DTH   : 20%
TV News Broadcasters : 26%
Cable Services  : 49%
Telecom   : 74%
ISP   : 100%
Non news TV Broadcasters: 100%
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TRAI has recommended a review of the foreign direct investment policy in a holistic manner to bring about a greater degree of consistency in the rules for various segments within the broadcasting sector and also in view of the likely convergence in future between telecommunication and broadcasting sectors. Based on the recommendations the Government has initiated the process for review of the existing foreign direct investment norms in consultation with the concerned Ministries.